After School Sports Policy



St Benignus NS, Balscadden

1.0Introduction

The school encourages our pupils to take part in after school sports activities. These sports are run voluntarily by teachers.

2.0After School Gaelic Football 2018

2.1The school has three after school gaelic football teams. Four teachers are volunteering to run these teams this year: Ms Falvey, Ms Kinane, Mr Curtin and Mr Devlin. The three teams are as follows:

Team	Classes	Teacher responsible
Senior Boys' team	5 th and 6 th	Mr Curtin
Senior Girls' team	4 th , 5 th and 6 th	Ms Kinane
Junior Boys' team	4 th and 5 th only	Mr Devlin

The teams are entered in the Fingal Schools League. Each team plays in their division with the top teams playing out finals for a cup.

2.2When does training take place?

Senior Girls train on Tuesdays 2.45-3.45. Senior boys and Junior boys train together on Wednesdays 2.45-3.45. If there is a change to the training time or day a text will be sent via Textaparent.

2.3When are the matches?

Once the matches start there is about one match per week. These matches are usually played on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. The match days and times are organised between the schools. Home matches will be played in O'Dwyer's Balbriggan or the new Balbriggan All-Weather facility. Away game venues will be passed on to the senior class children.

As soon as we know when the match is on we will let the children know.

2.4Lifts

Lifts are needed to and from the matches. If you cannot drive yourself please make arrangements with the other parents travelling to the match to ensure that your child has a lift to the match and that arrangements have been made to have your child collected from the pitch afterwards.

PLEASE NOTE: Teachers and members of staff cannot carry children in their cars due to Insurance issues and Child Safeguarding.

Due to the fact that the children are senior class children they will be expected to bring the necessary information home. In the case of children with Special Educational Needs or language difficulties special arrangements will be put in place in consultation between parents and teachers. **Normally, senior class children have no problem bringing this information home.**

2.5How are the teams picked?

The Fingal Schools League is a competitive league. The after school gaelic football is an optional activity run voluntarily by teachers. However, the following considerations are given when picking teams for games. Senior Matches (5th and 6th): The strongest team will be picked. Where two players are equal, preference will be given to the 6th class player. **All** 6th class players will play in every senior group match at some stage. Junior Matches (4th and 5th): The strongest team will be picked. Where two players are equal, preference will be given to the 5th class player. **All** 5th class players will play in every junior group match at some stage. Out of courtesy to the supervising teachers, players who are unable to attend matches or training should inform the teacher at the earliest opportunity.

2.60ther things to remember

- **2.61Mobile phones** are not allowed at football training or matches. Calls can be made to and from the school on training days. The supervising teacher will always have their mobile phone for matches. In the case of an emergency where you need to send a message to a teacher at a match you can call the school and the message can be passed on to the teacher.
- 2.62All players must wear gum shields and football boots.
- 2.63No **steel blades** or **steel studs** permitted on all-weather pitches in O'Dwyer's. Always wear suitable footwear for all-weather pitches.

3.0After School Athletics

The school competes every year in the Cumann na mBuncsol Santry Atheletics finals in Morton Stadium, Santry. Teachers volunteer to train and prepare the teams. Training takes place in a variety of locations. They include the school grounds, Stamullen running track and Morton stadium.

4.0First Aid

Teachers will bring a first aid kit with them to training and matches.

5.0Changing facilities

Pupils participating in after school sports activities will change using the pupils' toilets in their own classrooms and in other classrooms also. The children are not permitted to use toilet facilities used by adults in the school building.

6.0Review

This policy will be reviewed in January every ye	ear.	
Reviewed 14/5/2018		
This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on		
Signed: Chairperson of the Board of Management	Signed: Principal	
Date:	Date:	